

throat. He said that the man had a fair chance to live as the jugular vein was not cut. Chief McCabe told THE SUN correspondent that he believed the story about Oshahi was a lie.

"That Schermerhorn was enamored of Miss Bryner is confirmed by this act of his," said the chief. "He had previously annoyed her, but the young lady didn't think the matter of serious enough importance to speak to her employer about it."

"In the absence of the master of the house and his wife Schermerhorn knew that last night would be a favorable time to enter the nurse's room. He blackened his face and hands so that she would think he was a negro. That's where all the black marks on the woodwork came from. He quietly entered the house, and unheard by the other servants, who slept in the room, he went to the veranda, where he choked the sleeping nurse into insensibility and then assaulted her."

"On finding that she did not revive he realized the gravity of his crime and tied her wrists with a kimono string. The marks showed when she was found. Then he took the strings off, for some reason not now clear. This was to give it all the appearance of a burglar's work."

"To throw off suspicion and further the evidence of burglary he went to the dining room and removed the silver plate, either hiding it or burning it in the furnace. He took the revolver found in the yard and made the demonstration which awakened the servants in the other part of the house."

The coroner further corroborated this story of the chief by telling how when Schermerhorn came in he looked in the silver chest first. Then he led the way to Miss Bryner's apartment. Miss Farrell, the cook, further remembered that the coachman's face had black streaks upon it, which the chief explained by saying that the call for help came so quickly that he didn't have time to wash thoroughly."

Shortly after he was found with his throat cut Schermerhorn lost consciousness. He was brought to Poughkeepsie in a sleigh to-night and taken to Vassar Hospital, where an operation was performed which the surgeons believe will prevent his death. If he lives District Attorney Mack believes he will be able to convict him of murder in the first degree and sentence him to the chair.

Coroner Robert W. Andrews of this city is a physician, on completing an autopsy on the murdered woman said that her death was due to strangulation. The coroner found evidence that she had been criminally assaulted. There were black marks on her breast and elsewhere on her person and similar black marks made by a hand were found in many places on the white paint of the hall, the stairs and the nursery, through which it was necessary for any one to pass in order to reach the veranda on which the nurse and little girl slept.

Miss Bryner was born in Scotland. She had lived in this country about three years. She was of a bright and cheerful disposition and a favorite with all in the Compton house.

Her relatives are said to live in England, and an aunt who lives in Meriden, Conn. It was in Meriden that Miss Bryner got her training as a nurse. She studied two years in a hospital there. Her specialty was the care of children, and of the features which she practiced and practiced was sleeping in the open air.

Miss Bryner had been employed in the family of Mr. Compton for several months. Mr. Compton sent messages to all the addresses which he found among the young woman's belongings in order to notify her relatives and friends of her death.

SUICIDE OF JAMES BURTON.
A Marine Photographer Well Known to Many Yachtsmen.

LYNBBROOK, L. I., Jan. 13.—James Burton, well known as a photographer, committed suicide here to-night by shooting himself in the right temple in a room at the Lynbrook Club while a meeting of the members was going on. He died before any one could reach his side.

Mr. Burton was a member of the Lynbrook Club and was at the clubhouse at about 10 o'clock to attend the meeting. He seemed to be in good spirits. While the meeting was in progress he left the room and went into a side room. In a few minutes a pistol shot was heard. Members of the club hurried to the side room. Mr. Burton was lying on the floor. The bullet had entered the right temple and had come out at the left temple near a table near his body were three letters. They were addressed, but to whom was kept secret to-night. In a pocket was a picture of his wife.

Mr. Burton owned a home in this village. He made a specialty of marine photography and frequently accompanied Howard Gould on trips aboard the yacht "Erie" which he owned. He was wealthy and frequently went with him on yachting trips during the various club cruises.

On February 1 last Mr. Burton's wife, Eleanor H. E. Burton, committed suicide in her home here by inhaling gas. Since then he had been heard to say that some day he would take his own life. He was summoned to take charge of the letters found on the table.

SOLDIERS BREAK ISLAND JAIL.
Bars of Their Cells Sawn and a Boat Waiting for Them.

William J. Laughlin, once a cowpuncher but more recently a member of Troop F, Seventh Cavalry, decided some time ago to leave the service of Uncle Sam. He did so, but was caught and brought to Governors Island for court-martial for desertion. Among his fellow prisoners awaiting trial was Charles R. Dale, described in the army records as "desperate." Dale was a clerk in Pittsburgh before he enlisted. He was tall and was captured, as he has many tattoo marks, is much below the average height and has other peculiarities. He was sentenced to five years for his offense. He broke prison again, got caught again and was awaiting another trial with a probability of getting five years more.

Laughlin and the little man apparently planned to break prison together. Somebody smuggled a saw to Laughlin, and he used it in sawing through the bars of his cell on the ground floor of Castle Williams. He squeezed through the opening, and it is guessed went up one flight and sawed the bars of Dale's cell. Early on Wednesday morning the men let themselves to the ground by blankets and got away. Dale in leg irons. It is believed that a boat was waiting for them and took them to Brooklyn.

HYMENAL TREATY.
French in Mexico, Mexicans in France May Wed as if at Home.

MEXICO CITY, Jan. 13.—By a treaty between Mexico and France, which was recently negotiated, French citizens in Mexico can marry in Mexico without the usual thirty days notice which is required of all natives and other foreigners.

In France Mexican citizens will receive the same privileges they would enjoy in this country. The marriage laws of Mexico will apply to Mexicans in France and the marriage laws of France will apply to the French in Mexico.

No. One Wall St. OFFICES FOR RENT

A modern, fireproof building, 19 stories high at corner Wall Street and Broadway. The most prominent location in New York. Service and equipment the best. Entire floors afford handsome offices for business, desirable dignified quarters in best possible location. On some floors small suites or single offices may be had. Only first class tenants accepted. Prices reasonable. For information see Manager in Building from 9 to 5:30 daily.

No. 1 Wall St. Corporation.

IF JAPAN AND RUSSIA AGREE

SECRET DEAL AS TO MANCHURIA WILL BE INDICATED.

State Department Won't Be Surprised—Joint Policy Followed Since Peace of Portsmouth—Knox Plan the Best for Development of the Region.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 13.—Secretary of State Knox received no information from Tokio tending to show that Japan and Russia have formed a coalition to oppose the scheme for the neutralization of the Manchurian railroads which he proposed to the Powers some weeks ago. If, however, these two governments have formed such an agreement it would be no surprise to officers of the State Department.

Japan and Russia have followed similar policies in Manchuria since the end of the Russo-Japanese War. In fact, the similarity of their attitudes toward the various problems developed during the reconstruction period in Manchuria has given rise to a suspicion that they have a secret arrangement.

Japan and Russia are interested in Mr. Knox's suggestion for political reasons, but they are concerned also because they own all the important railroads in Manchuria. The Russian railroad zone is in the northern and northwestern parts, while the Japanese own the roads in the eastern and southern region. British and American capitalists, however, have obtained a concession for the construction of a proposed railroad from Chinkiang to Tientsin, with a later extension to Aigun.

Construction work on this road has not been begun. The line will be important because it will connect with the trans-siberian line by the public sentiment of the world as admitting that they wish to retain possession of their railroads in Manchuria for military and commercial reasons to aid in the exclusive development of the country about three years.

She was of a bright and cheerful disposition and a favorite with all in the Compton house.

Her relatives are said to live in England, and an aunt who lives in Meriden, Conn. It was in Meriden that Miss Bryner got her training as a nurse. She studied two years in a hospital there. Her specialty was the care of children, and of the features which she practiced and practiced was sleeping in the open air.

TO CHANGE INAUGURATION DAY.
Constitutional Amendment Advancing It to Fourth Thursday in April.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 13.—The outlook is bright for the passage at this session of a resolution proposing an amendment to the Constitution whereby the terms of the President, the Vice-President and members of Congress shall begin on the fourth Thursday in April instead of March 4, as at present.

The bad weather on the occasion of the inauguration of President Taft was the reason President Taft was obliged to take the oath of office in the Senate chamber instead of on the east plaza of the Capitol, as formerly. It is responsible for the movement that has been made to advance the inauguration day well into the spring.

If this is done, in accordance with the terms of a resolution discussed by the House to-day, which will be given further consideration later in the session, the Taft administration will be lengthened by nearly two months, or from March 4, 1913, until the fourth Thursday in April of that year.

DEALING IN FUTURES.
Attorney-General to Prepare a Bill to Remedy the Evil.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 13.—The proposition of dealing in futures was discussed to-day at a conference between President Taft and Representatives Scott of Kansas, Ewing of Missouri, and Keim of Texas. Last year Mr. Scott introduced a bill forbidding the use of interstate telegraph and telephones and the mails to transmit messages with reference to futures on farm products and other commodities.

Attorney-General Wickersham and Commissioner of Corporations Smith were present at the meeting and the subject was referred to the Attorney-General, who will prepare a bill to remedy the evil. After the measure is introduced in the House there will be hearings on it, so that the Cotton Exchange people and others interested in opposing it may have a chance to present their views.

INCREASING COST OF LIVING.
House Committee Takes Steps to Conduct an Investigation.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 13.—The first step in the investigation by Congress of the high and increasing cost of the necessities of life was taken to-day when Chairman Smith of the House Committee on the District of Columbia appointed a committee of seven members to tackle the subject with particular reference to the national capital. The committee consists of Representatives Ewing of Missouri, Johnson of Kentucky, Rothermel of Pennsylvania and Cox of Ohio.

The committee will be introduced by Mr. Moore, chairman of the special committee, prohibiting the storage of perishable foodstuffs in the District of Columbia for a longer period than six months.

Nominations by the President.
WASHINGTON, Jan. 13.—The President sent to the Senate to-day the following nominations:

To be Collector of Internal Revenue for the Fifth district of Kentucky—Ludlow F. Petty of Kentucky.

To be Collector of Customs for the District of Columbia—George W. Gardner of Rhode Island.

To be United States Marshal—William H. Warner of Nebraska, district of Nebraska; Asbury P. Patrick of Kentucky, for eastern Kentucky.

Separate Statehood Bill.
WASHINGTON, Jan. 13.—Separate Statehood for Arizona and New Mexico is authorized in a bill ordered reported to-day by the House Committee on Territories. The measure will now have the support of the Administration.

NOW PINCHOT HAS HIS SAY

HE DOESN'T CRITICISE TAFT IN HIS STATEMENT.

Nor Does He Attempt to Justify His Own Actions Which Caused the President to Dismiss Him From Office—Simply Reviews Conservation Movement.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 13.—The expected statement of Gifford Pinchot, who was dismissed from the office of Forester of the Agricultural Department last Friday by direction of President Taft, was given to the press by Mr. Pinchot to-night. The statement refers only incidentally to Mr. Pinchot's dismissal and does not criticize President Taft or attempt to justify the actions of Mr. Pinchot which caused the President to compel his removal from office. It is very general in its character, being devoted to a review of the conservation movement and what it means.

Praise is given to President Roosevelt for establishing the policy, and one of Mr. Pinchot's objects in making the statement appeared to be to have the American people understand that the credit for the conservation movement does not belong to Mr. Taft. Mr. Pinchot's statement is as follows:

At this time I have no comment to make on recent events. Whether in or out of the Government service I propose to stay in the fight for conservation and equal opportunity. Every movement and measure from whatever source that tends to advance conservation and promote government ownership for the benefit of the people try to help. Every movement and measure from whatever source that hinders conservation and promotes government by money for profit I shall endeavor to oppose. The supreme test of movements and measures is the welfare of the people. I am as ready to support the Administration when it moves toward this paramount end as I am to oppose it when it moves away.

I leave the forest service with profound regret. Its growth, its stability and its success are due to the capacity and hard work of a remarkably devoted, able and high minded body of men. I bear eager testimony to the service they have rendered this nation. They are well prepared to carry on the work.

But this forest service grew from the conservation movement, which has taken so remarkable a hold on the nation. Less than three years ago the word itself, in its present meaning, was substantially unknown and the movement for its safety and preservation had not been started. To-day it expresses one of our deepest national convictions and the principles for which it stands are received as axiomatic. It is only the execution of them which remains in doubt.

The great conference of Governors in the White House in May, 1908, led to the appointment of the National Conservation Commission, whose report gave us a new conception of the value of our natural resources. It told us what is needed for their prompt and orderly development and for their safety and preservation. Together with President Roosevelt's message transmitting its report, the recommendations of the commission furnished a complete statement of the conservation policy, met our needs squarely and prescribed the way.

They included definite practical recommendations for the protection of forests against fire and for equitable forest taxation. The classification of the public domain was strongly urged and principles for its use and disposition were laid down. The conservation of water power, was emphasized and the development of our soils and developing their agricultural value by drainage and otherwise was covered and particular attention drawn to the need of retaining our phosphate lands, then in danger of absorption by a foreign syndicate. The conservation of mineral rights from rights to the surface of the land was urged and the leasing of lands valuable for coal and other mineral fuels, under equitable conditions, was recommended.

The principles which should govern the development of our waterways for navigation, power and other uses were laid down, and the broad plan of the Inland Waterways Commission, which first called public opinion to the necessity for limitation in time and proper compensation to the owners of lands for water power, was endorsed. In a word the report of the commission and the message together set forth a comprehensive, definite scheme for the conservation of our natural resources and included the essential details of all the things that had been proposed since they appeared. We were ready to move forward.

At this critical period, when the goal was in sight, enemies of conservation in Congress not only succeeded in preventing an appropriation with which to pursue the work but they also succeeded in passing the last sundry civil bill. Thereupon the work of the National Conservation Commission was stopped.

The recommendations of the commission have been largely ignored. The commission has been allowed to die. The conservation movement to-day must be maintained by positive action by Congress. No action will be equivalent to the conservation movement to-day must be maintained by positive action by Congress. No action will be equivalent to the conservation movement to-day must be maintained by positive action by Congress.

The danger of bad legislation is no less serious. The conservation movement to-day must be maintained by positive action by Congress. No action will be equivalent to the conservation movement to-day must be maintained by positive action by Congress.

The danger of bad legislation is no less serious. The conservation movement to-day must be maintained by positive action by Congress. No action will be equivalent to the conservation movement to-day must be maintained by positive action by Congress.

Collector of Customs Resigns.
WASHINGTON, Jan. 13.—The resignation of William J. Grant, Collector of Customs at Cape Vincent, N. Y., was received by telegraph at the Treasury Department to-day. It was accepted. Mr. Grant's term is not up for almost a year. As far as could be learned to-night there was no request for Mr. Grant's resignation. It was said at the Treasury Department that he was regarded as a good collector.

Army and Navy Orders.
WASHINGTON, Jan. 13.—These army orders were issued to-day:

Lieut. Daniel E. Shean, Sixteenth Infantry, dropped from army for desertion. Capt. William D. Newbitt, commissary, to Third Cavalry, from command of the Grayling to command of the Grayling to command of the Grayling.

Lieut. R. A. Koch, from the Dixie to command of the Dixie to command of the Dixie to command of the Dixie.

Lieut. J. Grady, from the North Carolina to the Dixie to command of the Dixie to command of the Dixie.

Lieut. J. Grady, from the North Carolina to the Dixie to command of the Dixie to command of the Dixie.

THE FIFTH AVENUE BRANCH

Of The Farmers' Loan and Trust Company, 475 FIFTH AVENUE, near 41st Street.

Interest allowed on Deposit Accounts.

Acts as custodian of personal property and manager of real property.

Letters of Credit, Foreign Money and Travelers' Checks, Vault Boxes for Customers' use.

square deal. I repeat that the supreme test is the welfare of the plain people. It is time to act upon it.

It had been the belief among close observers of the course pursued by Mr. Pinchot which led up to his dismissal that he would make public his statement for publication either to-morrow afternoon or on Saturday morning. He contended that it was Mr. Pinchot's purpose to have his statement printed in the newspapers which contained the special message on the conservation of natural resources to the President Taft will send to Congress to-morrow.

Mr. Pinchot's object in having his statement and President Taft's message printed synchronously, it was contended, was to distract attention from the President's views on the subject of conservation, on the theory that the average newspaper reader would rather read hot news than the cold news of the President's views on the subject of conservation.

Incident to the knowledge gained to-day of the President's attitude it was declared in an authoritative quarter near to the President that he is not holding the big stick over the heads of Republican members of the House because they failed to vote for the tariff bill passed by Congress at the special session. It was said also that he had no hard feelings for any Congressman because he had opposed Speaker Cannon or declined to support any conservation action, and that he did not intend to take the organization of the Senate or the House, but in considering and adopting legislation advocated by the President, in accordance with pledges given in the national campaign of 1908, he is anxious to have a harmonious party spirit, so that these pledges may be redeemed. All his efforts will be toward that end.

Incident to the knowledge gained to-day of the President's attitude it was declared in an authoritative quarter near to the President that he is not holding the big stick over the heads of Republican members of the House because they failed to vote for the tariff bill passed by Congress at the special session. It was said also that he had no hard feelings for any Congressman because he had opposed Speaker Cannon or declined to support any conservation action, and that he did not intend to take the organization of the Senate or the House, but in considering and adopting legislation advocated by the President, in accordance with pledges given in the national campaign of 1908, he is anxious to have a harmonious party spirit, so that these pledges may be redeemed. All his efforts will be toward that end.

CANNON MEANT TO RETIRE.
But Attacks on Him Have Caused Him to Remain in the Fight to the End.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 13.—Whatever may be Speaker Cannon's present intention, there is no doubt that before this latest row in the House between the regulars and insurgents, he intended to retire from public life. Absolute confirmation of this was obtained to-day from an intimate personal and political friend of Mr. Cannon, who told the facts of the truth in this matter. He told the facts with reference to the reported intention of the Speaker to retire.

When Congress concluded its labors with the tariff bill in August last, Mr. Cannon had finally made up his mind to retire from public life at the expiration of this Congress. A year or so ago Mr. Cannon confided to his most intimate friends in the House that the time had come, in his opinion, when he should lay down the burdens of public office. He said that he had been in Congress nearly thirty-five years, that he had been highly respected by the people, and that he was tired of the work. He said that he was tired of the work.

This programme has been abandoned or, at least, postponed. It is Mr. Cannon's present purpose to stay on the job until he is removed from it. He resents bitterly the terrible arraignment to which he has been subjected and his friends in the House are determined to support him to the end unless he can be dissuaded by him to stand for reelection to Congress from the Danville district and in all probability be a candidate for another term as Speaker.

The warmest friends of the Speaker say that it would be humiliating for him to retire under fire. They fear that to save his face he may have to stay in the fight until the end unless a truce is patched up with the insurgents that will bridge this Congress, enabling Mr. Cannon to retire without apparent loss of honor.

There are a considerable number of men in the House who will stick by Mr. Cannon, going down to defeat with him. These friends are very much exercised over the present state of affairs.

Collector of Customs Resigns.
WASHINGTON, Jan. 13.—The resignation of William J. Grant, Collector of Customs at Cape Vincent, N. Y., was received by telegraph at the Treasury Department to-day. It was accepted. Mr. Grant's term is not up for almost a year. As far as could be learned to-night there was no request for Mr. Grant's resignation. It was said at the Treasury Department that he was regarded as a good collector.

Army and Navy Orders.
WASHINGTON, Jan. 13.—These army orders were issued to-day:

Lieut. Daniel E. Shean, Sixteenth Infantry, dropped from army for desertion. Capt. William D. Newbitt, commissary, to Third Cavalry, from command of the Grayling to command of the Grayling to command of the Grayling.

Lieut. R. A. Koch, from the Dixie to command of the Dixie to command of the Dixie to command of the Dixie.

Lieut. J. Grady, from the North Carolina to the Dixie to command of the Dixie to command of the Dixie.

CAN'T DRAW TAFT INTO FIGHT

HIS ATTITUDE TOWARD THE INSURGENTS EXPLAINED.

While He Does Not Intend to Get Mixed Up in Any Factional Fight He Will Not Sit Idly By and Let Republican Congressmen Oppose Party Policies.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 13.—The efforts to draw President Taft into the troubles that have beset Speaker Cannon and the organization of the House of Representatives have met with failure. The President has declined to take a hand in the controversy between Mr. Cannon and his followers and those Republican insurgents who through combinations with the Democratic Representatives are seeking to deprive the Speaker of his power or compel him to announce that he will not be a candidate for the Speakership again or even a candidate for Congress.

There have been many reports, involved in a good deal of detailed gossip, as to how the President stood with reference to the fight of the insurgents. A large part of this was incorrect. It became known to-day, however, just what the President's position was.

Mr. Taft, it was explained, does not intend to get mixed up in any factional fight involving the Republicans or the House of Representatives, or for that matter in any factional controversy between the Republican organization of the Senate and the Republican insurgents of that body. His attitude is that of a man who is not a candidate for the Speakership again or even a candidate for Congress.

What the President wants is concerted action among the Republicans of the Senate and the House with regard to the recommendations which he has placed before Congress. They may fight as much as they please among themselves, but matters that are left to the organization of the Senate or the House, but in considering and adopting legislation advocated by the President, in accordance with pledges given in the national campaign of 1908, he is anxious to have a harmonious party spirit, so that these pledges may be redeemed. All his efforts will be toward that end.

Incident to the knowledge gained to-day of the President's attitude it was declared in an authoritative quarter near to the President that he is not holding the big stick over the heads of Republican members of the House because they failed to vote for the tariff bill passed by Congress at the special session. It was said also that he had no hard feelings for any Congressman because he had opposed Speaker Cannon or declined to support any conservation action, and that he did not intend to take the organization of the Senate or the House, but in considering and adopting legislation advocated by the President, in accordance with pledges given in the national campaign of 1908, he is anxious to have a harmonious party spirit, so that these pledges may be redeemed. All his efforts will be toward that end.

Incident to the knowledge gained to-day of the President's attitude it was declared in an authoritative quarter near to the President that he is not holding the big stick over the heads of Republican members of the House because they failed to vote for the tariff bill passed by Congress at the special session. It was said also that he had no hard feelings for any Congressman because he had opposed Speaker Cannon or declined to support any conservation action, and that he did not intend to take the organization of the Senate or the House, but in considering and adopting legislation advocated by the President, in accordance with pledges given in the national campaign of 1908, he is anxious to have a harmonious party spirit, so that these pledges may be redeemed. All his efforts will be toward that end.

Incident to the knowledge gained to-day of the President's attitude it was declared in an authoritative quarter near to the President that he is not holding the big stick over the heads of Republican members of the House because they failed to vote for the tariff bill passed by Congress at the special session. It was said also that he had no hard feelings for any Congressman because he had opposed Speaker Cannon or declined to support any conservation action, and that he did not intend to take the organization of the Senate or the House, but in considering and adopting legislation advocated by the President, in accordance with pledges given in the national campaign of 1908, he is anxious to have a harmonious party spirit, so that these pledges may be redeemed. All his efforts will be toward that end.

Incident to the knowledge gained to-day of the President's attitude it was declared in an authoritative quarter near to the President that he is not holding the big stick over the heads of Republican members of the House because they failed to vote for the tariff bill passed by Congress at the special session. It was said also that he had no hard feelings for any Congressman because he had opposed Speaker Cannon or declined to support any conservation action, and that he did not intend to take the organization of the Senate or the House, but in considering and adopting legislation advocated by the President, in accordance with pledges given in the national campaign of 1908, he is anxious to have a harmonious party spirit, so that these pledges may be redeemed. All his efforts will be toward that end.

Incident to the knowledge gained to-day of the President's attitude it was declared in an authoritative quarter near to the President that he is not holding the big stick over the heads of Republican members of the House because they failed to vote for the tariff bill passed by Congress at the special session. It was said also that he had no hard feelings for any Congressman because he had opposed Speaker Cannon or declined to support any conservation action, and that he did not intend to take the organization of the Senate or the House, but in considering and adopting legislation advocated by the President, in accordance with pledges given in the national campaign of 1908, he is anxious to have a harmonious party spirit, so that these pledges may be redeemed. All his efforts will be toward that end.

Incident to the knowledge gained to-day of the President's attitude it was declared in an authoritative quarter near to the President that he is not holding the big stick over the heads of Republican members of the House because they failed to vote for the tariff bill passed by Congress at the special session. It was said also that he had no hard feelings for any Congressman because he had opposed Speaker Cannon or declined to support any conservation action, and that he did not intend to take the organization of the Senate or the House, but in considering and adopting legislation advocated by the President, in accordance with pledges given in the national campaign of 1908, he is anxious to have a harmonious party spirit, so that these pledges may be redeemed. All his efforts will be toward that end.

GRAND JURY ON LIVING COST.
Cincinnati Prosecutor Trying to Learn if Prices Are Raised Artificially.

CINCINNATI, Jan. 13.—The Grand Jury of this, Hamilton county, began to-day an investigation into the causes of the high cost of food and living.

As the opening wedge of this investigation Prosecutor H. R. Hunt has summoned Frank T. Hier, manager of the Cincinnati Ice Manufacturing and Cold Storage Company, and Eugene W. Lewis, manager of the Merchants Ice and Cold Storage Company.

Prosecutor Hunt, explaining the Grand Jury's entry into the investigation, said: "We will try to find out who is storing food at these plants and if there are any combinations engaged in the creation of a food famine with the purpose of maintaining high prices."

We also intend to find out if the alleged shortage of food is real or artificial. I believe that if we find that an artificial shortage has been created we can proceed against those responsible under laws prohibiting illegal combinations in restraint of trade.

mince words and after rehearsing the arguments by which the insurgents justify their fight on Speaker Cannon as the President's bad faith, he went outside of the usual plan of insurgent defence and while he did not accuse the President of bad faith he intimated that the insurgents did not think, in view of the fact that they were fighting Cannon and not Taft, that they had been fairly treated at the White House.

This communication apparently did not please Mr. Taft over much. His reply is short and not at all sweet. But it is very much to the point, and while it is not permissive to print the text of what he said, it may be said that in both spirit and letter it furnished very cold comfort to Mr. Norris and his associates. It gave them no encouragement whatever and converted the plain statement that Mr. Taft considered that any further activities by the insurgents which might widen the split in the Republican membership of the House or which would continue the fight against the President, into the chances of enacting the Administration's policies at this session of Congress would be unfriendly and that the offenders would be dealt with accordingly.

The regular staff of the White House received an intimation of the contents of the Taft-Norris correspondence are jubilant to-day and say there was never a doubt that the President would stand up squarely and squarely behind the organization.

DOMESTIC EXPORTS IN 1909.
Corn, \$24,209,000; Wheat, \$48,078,000; Cotton, \$401,377,000; Oil, \$99,749,000.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 13.—Seventy cents a bushel for corn, \$1.04 a bushel for wheat and practically 12 cents a pound for cotton is the 1909 record of the exports of three of the principal articles of agricultural production. The preliminary statement of exports of breadstuffs, meat and dairy products, cotton and mineral oil for the calendar year 1909 just issued by the bureau of statistics of the Department of Commerce and Labor shows that 3,704,000 bushels of corn exported were valued at \$24,209,000, or an average of 70 cents a bushel; 46,902,000 bushels of wheat, valued at \$48,078,000, or an average of \$1.04 a bushel, and 3,831,000,000 pounds of cotton, valued at \$461,377,000, or an average of 12 cents a pound.

While these figures are stated by the bureau of statistics as preliminary and only including the exports through the principal ports of the country, they are not far from the actual figures. The exportation of the important articles of agriculture during the year, The exports of mineral oil, also shown by the same statement, amounted to 3,831,000,000 gallons, valued at \$99,749,000, against 3,400,000,000 gallons, valued at \$105,282,000 in the preceding year.

A FEW LAWS FOR RAILROADS.
985,000 Words in New York and Two Adjoining States and 5,500,000 Interstate.

Now that the annotated consolidated laws of the State of New York as amended January 1, 1910, have been published, it is found that 157 royal octavo pages, containing approximately 85,000 words, have been added to the railroad laws since force of law.

The Federal and the New York special railroad statutes make a total of 497,000 words. New Jersey's railroad laws up to 1905 make an octavo volume of 284 pages, or approximately 113,000 words. Since 1905 the New Jersey legislature has added, bringing the grand total of New Jersey up to date to 143,000 words. Pennsylvania is little better. The general railroad laws of the Keystone State have 340,000 words.

The laws dealing specifically with railroads in New York, Pennsylvania and New Jersey, together with the Federal Statutes, total 985,000 words. These are the laws which must be observed by any railroad operating in the three States, for instance the Lehigh Valley or the Lackawanna.

In addition are the general laws applicable to railroads and the rulings and orders of the Interstate Commerce Commission and the State commissions. The decisions of the Interstate Commerce Commission have all the effect of law until they are set aside by the courts, which happens very rarely.

These decisions are issued in sixteen volumes of reports. The latest, dated June, 1909, is a volume of 745 pages, approximately 350,000 words. As the volumes are issued uniformly, they represent an aggregate of about 5,500,000 words to the grand total of railroad legislation and regulation.

From 1